

DETROIT RIVER

MICHIGAN

Project Name: Detroit River Urban Park and Restoration

Project Type:

- Restoration (Riparian)
- Recreation (Trail and River Access)
- Youth
- Education
- Urban

Project Description: This initiative will foster urban youth appreciation of the Detroit River and help establish a new generation of river caretakers. Through conservation work on the river, these young people may be inspired to consider jobs in natural resource conservation and resource management.

This initiative will engage urban youth in conservation activities at the William G. Milliken State Park, along the 5.5-mile Detroit RiverWalk, which is one of the largest urban waterfront redevelopment projects in the United States. The Detroit RiverWalk and William G. Milliken State Park offer compelling conservation and environmental education programs and stellar outdoor recreational opportunities. Nearly seven million people live within a one hour drive of these urban jewels in Detroit. This project will build upon extensive conservation work underway through the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, City of Detroit, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and numerous other partners.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- Detroit Riverfront Conservancy
- City of Detroit
- At least 100 other public and private partner organizations

Outcomes for 2012:

- Provide jobs for Greening of Detroit workers restoring habitat at the Gateway of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge
- Create discovery center and improve recreational opportunities at William G. Milliken State Park
- Expand and improve Kids Free Fishing Day at William G. Milliken State Park
- Provide a compelling urban conservation experience for urban youth at the Detroit River Days, an event that attracts one million people each year
- Restore shoreline habitat and improve public access at Mt. Elliott Park along the Detroit RiverWalk
- Engage youth in celebration of World Wetlands Day
- Work with U.S. Forest Service to educate and engage youth in conservation